

In the Claims

1.(currently amended) A plastid transformation and expression vector for stably transforming a plastid, wherein the vector comprises an expression cassette comprising, as operably linked components:

- a plastid promoter which is operative in said plastid,
- a selectable marker sequence,
- a heterologous DNA coding sequence for a cytotoxic antimicrobial magainin family peptide (~~AMP~~) ~~of a magainin family~~ or a an magainin analog ~~of the magainin family~~,
- a transcription termination sequence functional in said plastid, and

flanking each side of the expression cassette, a flanking DNA sequence which is homologous to a DNA sequence of a plastid genome, whereby stable integration of the heterologous DNA coding sequence into the plastid genome of a target plant's cell is facilitated through homologous recombination of the flanking DNA sequence with a homologous sequence in the plastid genome.